

THE  
**FUTURE  
OF  
AMERICA'S  
NATIONAL  
PARKS**

First Annual  
Centennial Strategy for

# Cedar Breaks National Monument

August 2007

CENTENNIAL INITIATIVE



**Site:** CEBR

**Year:** 2007

**Vision Statement**

Cedar Breaks National Monument will preserve the geologic spectacle of the Cedar Breaks amphitheater, as well as the scenic vistas, biological and cultural resources, and other features of scientific and educational interest, and provide visitors with educational and inspirational opportunities to safely enjoy and appreciate park values.

This will be realized by working in concert with regional, national, and global communities to develop a sense of common stewardship, and in a manner that is both environmentally and financially sustainable and meets the high quality standards expected of the National Park Service.

**Park/ Superintendent/ Program Manager**

Paul Roelandt



Site: CEBR

STEWARDSHIP

☒ **Improve the condition of park resources and assets.**

☒ **Rehabilitate high-priority historic buildings to good condition, and help communities to preserve their history through programs like Preserve America.**

Pursue partnership projects with Snow College Traditional Buildings Skills Institute, Iron County Historical Society, Utah Archeological Society and others to perform preventive maintenance on historic structures and to preserve and protect archeological sites

Work with local historical society's, friends groups and other interest groups who have expressed a strong desire to rebuild the Cedar Breaks Lodge. The Lodge was was one stop on a tour of southern Utah parks conducted by the Union Pacific Railroad. Built in 1923, at a time when the parks were linked by railroad and buses, the lodge exemplified the developing "tourism" economy of the region. Patrons were driven from park to park, where each lodge offered dining, entertainment, and a bed for the night. Many area residents fondly remember the lodge and still miss the fried chicken dinner that was standard fare every night. The National Park Service removed the buildings in 1972, ostensibly due to deterioration and business setbacks. Considering the growth in sensitivity to the value of cultural resources like the lodge, it is likely that removal of the lodge would not take place if the same circumstances were present today.

☐ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

☒ **Restore native habitats by controlling invasive species and reintroducing key plant and animal species.**

Cedar Breaks will protect the park from invasive exotic species. We will establish work projects with volunteers, universities and other park partners to creatively secure the resources necessary to inventory and monitor plant species, and to target areas where exotics are found.

☒ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

☒ **Improve high-priority assets to acceptable condition, as measured by the Facility Condition Index.**

Fully utilize FMSS database information to identify PMIS project funding needs and priorities, and work with local friends groups, volunteers, schools and university partners to accomplish them.

☐ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: CEBR

STEWARDSHIP

☒ Improve the condition of park resources and assets.

☒ Improve the natural resources in parks, as measured by the vital signs developed under the Natural Resource Challenge.

Establish a viable and sustainable natural resources program. Seek creative ways to establish a full time Natural and Cultural resources program manager. Explore options with Southern Utah University to share professional staff.

☒ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

☒ Complete all cultural resource inventories for designated priority resources.

Pursue partnership projects with Snow College Traditional Buildings Skills Institute, Iron County Historical Society and others to perform preventive maintenance on historic structures and to protect archeological sites

☐ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

☒ Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

\* Find creative ways to begin to inventory and monitor the recommended wilderness and Research Natural Area in the amphitheater  
\* Protect the park's spectacular native Wildflower population

☐ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: CEBR

STEWARDSHIP

☒ **Assure that no compelling chapter in the American heritage experience remains untold and that strategically important landscapes are acquired, as authorized by Congress.**

☒ **Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)**

Partner with Southern Utah University Special Collections Library and Michael O. Leavitt Educational Foundation to make park archive collections accessible on line, systematic production and collection of park related oral histories, administrative histories, cultural preservation / catalogs of important items; images, artwork and items of historical significance would be centrally catalogued (but NOT stored) at SUU. Could be tied to national scope network. Could also provide fellowships and other technical assistance to all Utah parks and potentially all NPS units with cultural / heritage / preservation / archival assistance

☐ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: CEBR

STEWARDSHIP

☒ **Serve as the Preeminent resource laboratory by applying excellence in science and scholarship to understand and respond to environmental changes.**

☒ **Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)**

NPS and Southern Utah University would establish and operate the Color Country Biological Field Station that would serve as a base camp for visiting scientists, national park employees, CESU cooperators and contractors as well as students and university staff who are conducting research and / or doing park related support work. The existing 2300 acre Cedar Mountain Science Camp property would be utilized, with some existing facilities rehabilitated, ten housing cabins added to the existing cabins already on site, high technology fiber optic cable infrastructure installed, lab facilities enhanced and expanded to meet a broader range of needs. The facility would serve all eight of the national park units which are within a 30 minute to three hours driving time distance of the campus.

☐ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: CEBR

ENVIRONMENT

☒ Inspire an environmental conscience in Americans.

☒ Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Cedar Breaks will work in concert with other NPS units to provide expertise, funds and planning to make each and every NPS unit a place where visitors experience and learn about sustainability by experiencing it first hand. Recycling, building practices, purchasing, transportation, resource management practices, environmental management and virtually all phases of NPS operations are focused upon setting examples for sustainable methods and practices.

Our visitors will experience and participate in sustainability focused seminars, workshops in the parks, waysides, films exhibits promote sustainable deals, hybrid cars are used, and other emerging technologies are used wherever practical...

☐ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: CEBR

ENVIRONMENT

☒ Engage partners, communities, and visitors in shared environmental stewardship.

☒ Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Regional NPS units, the NPS Night Sky Team and Southern Utah University will work together to establish a Night Sky Education Resources Center. The Center would consist of a premier night sky and observatory facility located at Bryce Canyon National Park, with smaller satellite observatory facilities located in key night sky viewing locations including Cedar Breaks, Capitol Reef, North Rim Grand Canyon and other sites across the Plateau. NPS Night Sky team staff would develop close working relationships with Southern Utah University, and other regional universities, astronomy organizations and others interested in preserving night sky resources. A cadre of "master astronomers"... volunteers modeled after the very successful "master gardeners" program ... would be trained. Efforts would be made to assure these volunteers are strategically located in communities throughout the region . A close working relationship would be nurtured between these volunteers, the university, the night sky resource center and satellite facilities, where regular night sky programs would be offered to visitors and residents as well as to city councils and decision makers.

☐ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: CEBR

RECREATION

☒ Encourage collaboration among and assist park and recreation systems at every level-federal, regional, state, local-to help build an outdoor recreation network accessible to all Americans.

☒ Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Gateway communities throughout Southwestern Utah would be provided the planning and development resources to identify opportunities to establish a series of pedestrian / hiking/ biking trails that would provide seamless connections to national parks where feasible and desireable. Funding would be provided to develop trail connections master plans in regional areas that offer the opportunity to pursue projects considering location, terrain, existing infrastructure. Areas where new road development is planned, or rehab work being considered would receive highest priority. The goal would be to identify opportunities and develop draft plans including cost estimates where a combination of expanded road shoulders and stand alone new trails or rehabilitation / rerouting of existing trails with a minimum of resource disturbance would result in "trail friendly" and walkable communities. These projects would focus on connections with national park areas. Matching dollars would be sought from Utah Dept of Transportation projects, Utah non motorized trail program, private donations from trail and bicycle groups and foundations

☐ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: CEBR

RECREATION

☒ Establish "volun-tourism" excursions to national parks for volunteers to help achieve natural and cultural resource protection goals.

☒ Increase annual volunteer hours by 100 percent, from 5.2 million hours to 10.4 million hours.

Cedar Breaks in concert with other NPS units proposes to use the Youth Conservation Corps model...and recruit a cadre of senior citizens to assist with park projects, staffing and volunteer needs. The program could operate similar to Student Conservation Association with on line announcements, bringing trained crew leaders with gear and enthusiastic crews on site at parks to accomplish work...or to fill a staff need.. Utilize the years of working experience that many seniors bring to the table as former CEO's , building trades people, software and technology experts etc. Put these skills to be found in wide range of fields to work nationwide on behalf of national parks everywhere.

☐ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS



Site: CEBR

RECREATION

☒ Focus national, regional, and local tourism efforts to reach diverse audiences and young people and to attract visitors to lesser-known parks.

☒ Increase visitation by 25 percent at lesser-known parks through a national tourism effort aimed at helping people to discover the breadth of parks and experiences.

Cedar Breaks NM in cooperation with regional community partners proposes to share costs, expertise and content development among already committed and many potential partners to better coordinate information about regional tourism activities by developing a web based , electronic "publication ". This web based information resource will allow web site visitors the opportunity to easily access and essentially develop and download (in .pdf format) a customized program of events targeted to the places, dates and types of events and activities they would like to participate in. Project partners will be able to input information, photos, maps etc about educational programs, field trip opportunities, community festivals county travel council and other regional events they would like visitors to know about. This will provide visitors with up to date and consolidated information about regional events and allow them to customize a visit which best suits their own tastes, timeframe and interests. In addition, the publication will include maps and brief synopsis of information about the areas many attractions, as well as community information and contact information for each partner.

☐ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: CEBR

EDUCATION

☒ Cooperate with educators to provide curriculum materials, high-quality programs, and park-based and online learning.

☒ Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Make Cedar Breaks NM (and other national parks) a place where learning takes place often, not just on vacation. Towards this end, Cedar Breaks NM In cooperation with Southern Utah University, Science Dept. proposes to build a first class, high quality classroom facility at Cedar Breaks NM. In addition to Southern Utah University use, we will create and equip this park learning environment to support educational programs for broad use for Junior Rangers, elementary , middle school, high school, college, life long learning students, park field institutes, elderhostel and to provide a facility for Teacher to Ranger to Teacher programs.

This same approach could also be duplicated at other NPS units nationwide in cooperation with their regional and community colleges. Some park areas may already have these type facilities, or buildings which could be retrofitted for this purpose..

☐ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: CEBR

EDUCATION

☒ Introduce young people and their families to national parks by using exciting media and technology.

☒ Increase the number of web hits through the introduction of advanced, interactive features that attract young people to national parks.

Cedar Breaks NM in collaboration with the National Park Service and corporate partnerships, Southern Utah University proposes the creation of [www.MyParks.gov](http://www.MyParks.gov) - an interactive website that embraces the current internet trends of social networking and self-submitted content. A 21st century portal for park visitors who wish to research, publish, and participate with others having similar interests in national parks. Embracing all that is American - MyParks places nature in concert with technology and creates a forum of interest for all ages. While this idea can take on many forms, initial content ideas have been brainstormed and focus on creating a place to exchange what inspires people about national parks, a place to share journal entries, poems, photos; An electronic Artist in Residence program; Re-photography showing changes in parks over time; Oral Histories highlighting thoughts, reflections and accomplishments of prominent conservationists as well as ordinary citizens doing extraordinary things in their own backyard.

☐ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

☒ Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Cedar Breaks NM in cooperation with regional community partners proposes to share costs, expertise and content development among already committed and many potential partners to better coordinate information about regional tourism activities by developing a web based , electronic "publication ". This web based information resource will allow web site visitors the opportunity to easily access and essentially develop and download (in .pdf format) a customized program of events targeted to the places, dates and types of events and activities they would like to participate in. Project partners will be able to input information, photos, maps etc about educational programs, field trip opportunities, community festivals county travel council and other regional events they would like visitors to know about. This will provide visitors with up to date and consolidated information about regional events and allow them to customize a visit which best suits their own tastes, timeframe and interests. In addition, the publication will include maps and brief synopsis of information about the areas many attractions, as well as community information and contact information for each partner.

☐ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: CEBR

EDUCATION

☒ Promote life-long learning to connect generations through park experiences.

☒ Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Cedar Breaks NM in cooperation with Southern Utah University and the National Collegiate Honors Council will develop a "Partners in the Parks" educational program. This program will explore & develop an educational process, "pilot program" which can be applied nationwide to engage college level honors students and faculty in three key areas:(1) understanding the value of stewardship of natural and cultural resources to society as a whole (2) introducing outdoor experiential education to a diverse audience of honors students within a university learning environment (3) providing real life, challenging service project work to honors students that directly benefit one or more national park units regionally located near their campus. These experiences will serve as a platform to build the students personal commitment to appreciate these national resources and to support the stewardship and conservation of national park areas.Honors students are by their nature ethnically diverse leaders in their colleges, communities, & peer groups likely to integrate these experiences into future family & work experiences, thereby planting the seeds of stewardship for the rising generation.

☐ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: CEBR

EDUCATION

☒ Impart to every American a sense of their citizen ownership of their national parks.

☒ Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

NPS and Southern Utah University would establish a formal relationship among key departments to develop a rigorous faculty education program which would build the capacity on campus to produce high quality products and services of the type and scope currently offered at Harpers Ferry Center. These services would include developing programs and visual media utilizing emerging technologies such as hand held mobile devices (iPods), web based projects and other technology based platforms. Close working relationships would be formed to assure NPS design standards are met and adhered to. In key locations, Harpers Ferry staff could be either permanently or temporarily assigned to work on campus to assist with program oversight and coordination. Skilled students would be utilized in varying degrees of internships, and would be given the opportunity to work on projects from the regional national park units. With additional investment, a broader range of professional design services could be developed to serve a broader, national set of park unit "clients". Once established as a pilot, other campuses could develop similar expertise, to operate as network of design centers across the country

☐ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: CEBR

**PROFESSIONALISM**

☒ **Be one of the top 10 places to work in America.**

☒ **Meet 100 percent of diversity recruitment goals by employing people who reflect the face of America.**

Establish an endowment / trust set aside to fully fund several faculty and student fellowships to work in national park units and to serve regional parks. Career fields and experience include 21st Century Business practices, resource management assistance, marketing, technology, education and virtually all phases of NPS operations. The program also addresses meeting NPS diversity goals and introducing young people to the national parks as a potential career field. Southern Utah University could be used to develop a model that could be applied to a national university network benefiting national park units across the country

☐ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

☒ **Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)**

Fully implement all phases of the Information Technology Infrastructure project with the assistance of NPS and other agencies and partners. This will provide increased capacity for all staff to better communicate and more efficiently accomplish their work using high speed internet and reliable telephones on site at the Monument rather than traveling back and forth to Cedar City.

☐ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: CEBR

PROFESSIONALISM

☒ Promote a safety and health culture for all employees and visitors.

☒ Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

\* Explore creative partnerships with other parks, agencies and partners to acquire stable funding options to provide law enforcement backup for the Chief Ranger  
\*Partner with the Dixie National Forest and other partners to creatively provide summer backcountry wilderness and winter recreational patrols and monitoring.  
\* Explore options to share law enforcement seasonals / perhaps permanent LE staff with Kolob District at Zion NP  
\* Work with volunteer groups, interns and other resources to accomplish much needed backcountry trails work and to address other significant life, health and safety issues

☐ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: CEBR

PROFESSIONALISM

☒ Model what it means to work in partnership.

☒ Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

The Color Country Cooperative Conservation Institute would be a Region-wide collaborative partnership based at Southern Utah University involving private sector, state & local government, higher education, public education, and conservation interests throughout Southern Utah and Northern Arizona. The Institute could serve as an umbrella organization that would house, coordinate , staff and implement many of the programs submitted as smaller discrete Centennial projects by Cedar Breaks, Zion, Bryce Canyon and other regional NPS units. The Institute would have a national park education and research focus, and would create and coordinate numerous educational programs and activities related to the parks in such areas as arts, history, culture, field science, student internships, National Honor Society programs, junior ranger programs, teacher education, field stations and field trips, observatory and night sky programs, community & park connections and planning, natural history, national parks study and research, shared staff and fellowships, GIS projects, national park archives, and conservation activities - bringing all of these under one umbrella.

☐ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS